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U.S. DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK  
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MAY 23 2008  
S/30/88

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MAY 23 2008

May 22, 2007

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Honorable Debra Freeman  
United States Magistrate Judge  
United States Courthouse  
40 Foley Square  
New York, New York 10007

**JOINT APPLICATION****MEMO ENDORSED**

Re: **Federal Insurance Company**  
**v. M/V "SCI TEJ", et al.**  
**07 Civ.7797 (LTS)**  
**Our File: 7C-1497**

Dear Judge Freeman:

This admiralty action involves a claim for cargo damage and has been referred to Your Honor for general pretrial purposes, including scheduling and discovery matters. The undersigned attorneys for plaintiff and defendants respectfully seek an adjustment of the scheduling order deadlines. For the Court's convenience annexed are copies of the order of reference and the docket entry for the scheduling order deadlines. This is the first request for an extension of case management deadlines.

Despite the good faith efforts of counsel it does not appear that it will be possible to complete discovery and other trial preparations within the time periods established at the initial court conference on February 8, 2008. For reasons not anticipated at the time the scheduling order was entered, counsel have encountered difficulties obtaining certain information and documents relevant to issues to be adjudicated. This has also complicated settlement discussions.

The shipment in question moved from Karachi, Pakistan to New York. During the transit one of the carrying ocean vessels was dry-docked in Spain. Efforts to comply with disclosure and discovery obligations have been complicated by the number of non-party foreign sources of information, certain of which have been slow to respond. In addition, one non-party entity involved in delivery of the shipments has apparently ceased operations.

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Counsel respectfully request a forty-five day extension of the following case management deadlines, with a parallel extension of contingent deadlines based on these dates. The following adjusted deadlines are proposed:

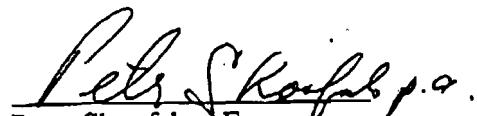
❖ Non-expert witness discovery	July 21, 2008
❖ Expert Witness discovery	August 27, 2008
❖ Dispositive motions	October 3, 2008

Counsel assure the Court that the additional time will be used to continue efforts to explore settlement possibilities. The Court's attention is appreciated.

Respectfully,



David L. Mazaroli  
Attorney for Plaintiff

  
Peter Skoufalos, Esq.  
Brown Gavalas & Fromm LLP  
Attorney for Defendants

SO ORDERED: DATE: 5/29/08

  
DEBRA FREEMAN  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

encl.